

The bill provides critical authorities for the Department of Defense over the coming year and also includes a provision, Title 17, that is compromise language to H.R. 44, the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act. This provision is important to my constituents as it resolves a longstanding injustice. Mr. Speaker, I thank the President and his administration, specifically Secretary Ken Salazar and Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta from the Department of the Interior, as well as Deputy Secretary of Defense Bill Lynn, Undersecretary of the Navy Robert Work, Assistant Secretary of Defense Chip Gregson, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Jackalynne Pfannenstiel, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense Dorothy Robyn and Mr. Joe Ludovici of the Joint Guam Program Office who emphasized to the Congress the importance of this provision to our Nation, to the people of Guam, and for maintaining support within the community on Guam for the military build-up.

Although now before us is the compromise language insisted upon by the other body, the people of Guam have sought closure on this matter for many years. Today we have arrived at that critical juncture. It has been 6 years since the Federal Guam War Claims Review Commission fulfilled the mandate of Public Law 107-333 and recommended to Congress the enactment of legislation that takes the form in this Congress as H.R. 44. The military build-up is beginning construction, in earnest, in the next few months and it is important to my constituents that this issue be finally addressed. The compromise, now before us, is identical to the compromise tendered during conference on last year's defense bill. Last year, I was not able to accept the compromise because I needed to first hear from my constituents about their thoughts on its potential ramifications. While the House has overwhelmingly embraced H.R. 44, the full provision and passed it multiple times, and the President and his administration have urged its enactment, regrettably there continues to be objections in the Senate to certain elements of the provision, namely the category of claimants in which descendants of Chamorros who survived the occupation and suffered personal injury but who have since passed away would be compensated. Therefore, the basis and need for this compromise language.

The defense bill also continues to support the Defense Policy Review Initiative and the so-called Guam International Agreement that outline the realignment of military forces in the Western Pacific. The bill recognizes the strategic importance to the bilateral relationship between the United States and Japan of realigning forces within Okinawa, Japan with some realigning to Guam. Specifically, this bill continues our tradition of providing stringent oversight of the military build-up and ensuring accountability with this significant undertaking. One provision, in particular, helps to make sure the military build-up is done right and benefits our civilian community. Section 2822 authorizes the Department of the Navy to convey its water and wastewater system to the Guam Waterworks Authority. This permissive authority outlines Congress's intent for any such conveyance of the water and wastewater systems. Further, it recognizes the efficiency of scale that can be achieved by having one, single and integrated water and wastewater system on Guam. Of importance to some of my constituents, is that the resources of Fena

Reservoir will once again benefit our civilian community.

The bill also reaffirms this Congress's commitment to our men and women in the National Guard. The legislation authorizes \$700 million in the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account, totaling over \$7.2 billion in funding for National Guard and Reserve equipment requirements. Of particular concern to the Guam National Guard is authorization for a long-awaited \$19 million military construction project for a new Combined Support Maintenance Shop at the Barrigada Joint Force Headquarters complex on Guam. It also extends a critical authority to be able to recruit and retain quality Guardsmen and women from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana, CNMI, islands. Section 621, extends for 1 year, authority for eligible members of the National Guard and Reserves to be reimbursed for certain travel expenses in conjunction with inactive duty training. This authority is critical to ensure members of the Guam National Guard residing in the CNMI are able to train with their fellow Guardsmen on Guam and to maintain their readiness in the event they need to support local or federal requirements.

Finally, I extend my deepest thanks to Chairman SKELTON for his steadfast and unwavering support of Guam and issues that are important to our people. He and Ranking Member McKEON remained firm in their support for H.R. 44, and have helped tremendously with ensuring plans for the military build-up reflected the needs and concerns of the people of Guam. We will miss Chairman SKELTON's leadership on the Committee and in this body dearly. We join the Nation in saluting him for all that he has done for the men and women who have served and continue to serve and their families. We look forward to continuing to work under incoming Chairman McKEON's steady leadership, and with the legacy of Chairman SKELTON that he and Congressman SMITH and others will continue to uphold within the Committee. I urge my colleagues to support passage of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for our Nation, our troops, and for the people of Guam.

Mr. SKELTON. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6523, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Resolution 1377, by the yeas and nays; concurring in the Senate amendments to H.R. 1107, de novo;

H.R. 6523, by the yeas and nays; concurring in the Senate amendment to H.R. 628, de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

#### HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF NORMAN YOSHIO MINETA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1377) honoring the accomplishments of Norman Yoshio Mineta, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 384, nays 0, not voting 49, as follows:

[Roll No. 648]

YEAS—384

Ackerman	Cantor	Donnelly (IN)
Aderholt	Cao	Doyle
Adler (NJ)	Capito	Dreier
Akin	Capps	Driehaus
Alexander	Capuano	Duncan
Altmire	Carnahan	Edwards (MD)
Andrews	Carson (IN)	Edwards (TX)
Arcuri	Carter	Ehlers
Austria	Cassidy	Ellison
Baca	Castle	Ellsworth
Bachmann	Castor (FL)	Emerson
Bachus	Chaffetz	Engel
Baldwin	Chandler	Eshoo
Barrow	Childers	Etheridge
Bartlett	Chu	Farr
Bean	Clarke	Fattah
Becerra	Clay	Filner
Berkley	Cleaver	Flake
Berman	Clyburn	Fleming
Biggart	Coble	Forbes
Blibray	Coffman (CO)	Fortenberry
Bilirakis	Cohen	Foster
Bishop (GA)	Cole	Fox
Bishop (NY)	Conaway	Frank (MA)
Bishop (UT)	Connolly (VA)	Franks (AZ)
Blackburn	Conyers	Frelinghuysen
Blumenauer	Cooper	Fudge
Blunt	Costa	Garamendi
Bocchieri	Costello	Garrett (NJ)
Boehner	Courtney	Gerlach
Bonner	Crenshaw	Giffords
Bono Mack	Critz	Gingrey (GA)
Boozman	Crowley	Gohmert
Boren	Cuellar	Gonzalez
Boswell	Culberson	Goodlatte
Boucher	Cummings	Gordon (TN)
Boustany	Dahlkemper	Graves (GA)
Brady (TX)	Davis (CA)	Graves (MO)
Bright	Davis (IL)	Green, Al
Brown (GA)	Davis (KY)	Green, Gene
Brown, Corrine	DeFazio	Grijalva
Buchanan	DeLauro	Guthrie
Burgess	Dent	Gutierrez
Burton (IN)	Deutch	Hall (NY)
Butterfield	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hall (TX)
Buyer	Diaz-Balart, M.	Halvorson
Calvert	Dicks	Hare
Camp	Dingell	Harman
Campbell	Doggett	Harper